

5 CLAIMS

1. An irrigation unit which includes a body which has an upper side, a lower side, a base on the lower side, an outer wall which extends upwardly from the base and an inner wall which is engaged with and spaced from the outer wall, a cavity formed by the body, a reservoir defined between the inner and outer walls which has an inlet thereto and an outlet therefrom into the cavity, an open ended fluid passage which has an upper end which terminates in the reservoir and a second lower end which terminates in the cavity, an overflow formation which extends from the body and which is in communication with the cavity and a support formation in the cavity which has a platform and a plurality of spacers engaged with the platform with which the platform is spaced from the base, and wherein the overflow formation extends through the platform.
2. An irrigation unit according to claim 1 wherein the body includes a plant container.
3. An irrigation unit according to claim 2 wherein the plant container is integrally formed with the body.
4. An irrigation unit according to claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the outer wall is continuous and surrounds the base.
5. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the inner wall extends between the outer wall and the base.
6. An irrigation unit according to claim 5 wherein the inner wall is sealingly attached to the outer wall and the base.

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- 5 7. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the cavity is open ended towards the upper side.
8. An irrigation unit according to claim 7 wherein the cavity is U-shaped in cross-section.
- 10 9. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the inlet includes a plug opening in the body.
10. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the inlet includes an elongate liquid conduit which extends from an upper entrance to a lower exit into the reservoir.
11. An irrigation unit according to claim 10 wherein the upper entrance is funnel shaped.
- 15 12. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the outlet includes a valve means.
13. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the overflow formation is engaged with the base.
- 20 14. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein the overflow formation is in the form of an upstanding, open ended, tubular member which extends through the body and from the base into the cavity.
15. An irrigation unit according to claim 14 wherein the overflow formation includes an overflow entrance which is spaced from the base and wherein the outlet and the lower end are located between the overflow entrance and the base.
- 25 16. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the overflow formation includes a spillway on the outer wall.

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- 5 17. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 16 wherein the support formation divides the cavity into a lower section and an upper section wherein the outlet and the second lower end are in direct communication with the lower section and the overflow formation is in direct communication with the upper section.
- 10 18. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein the platform includes a plurality of apertures and an enlarged hole there through.
19. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 18 wherein the support formation includes a wall formation extending from the platform to define a receptacle.
- 15 20. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 19 wherein the support formation is removably insertable into the cavity.
21. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 20 which includes a draining formation in the outer wall which is in communication with the reservoir.
- 20 22. An irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 21 which includes a liquid level indicator.
23. An irrigation unit according to claims 22 wherein the indicator is located on the outer wall.
24. An irrigation unit according to claim 22 or 23 wherein the indicator includes a tubular member which has an elongate window, indicia on an interior of the tubular member and a float located inside the tubular member which is movable
- 25 relatively to the tubular member.

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- 5      25.      An irrigation unit according to claim 22 wherein the indicator is at least partially located in the reservoir.
26.      A plant container which includes a housing and an irrigation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 25 which is engaged with the housing.
27.      A plant container according to claim 26 wherein the irrigation unit is integrally formed with the housing.
- 10      28.      A plant container according to claim 26 wherein the irrigation unit is removable from the housing.
29.      A method of growing a plant in a plant container according to claim 26, 27 or 28.
- 15      30.      A method of growing a plant according to claim 29 which includes the step of at least partially filling the reservoir with a liquid.